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made into it after such manner indicates betterment. Persons desiring copies of this report should communicate with Mr. Frank C. Brown, chairman of the Drama Committee, the Twentieth Century Club, 9 Joy Street, Boston.

#### ART IN THE SCHOOLS

The Art League of the Public Education Association of New York has, for the past few years, been conducting lecture courses at the Metropolitan Museum of Art for the benefit of its members and of the art teachers of the public schools of the city. A further step in the correlation of the Museum and the schools is the series of six illustrated lectures to pupils of the high schools that is being given in the Museum, under the auspices of the Art League, by Dr. James Parton Haney, Director of Art in the High Schools. These lessons outline the method of approach to the study of pictures, of sculpture, of architecture, of design, of ceramics, and of furniture.

As an incentive to the study of the Museum, pictures are to be awarded as prizes for the best compositions written by the pupils as a result of these lessons. The pupils are asked to submit, within three weeks after each lecture, a written composition or essay upon some one of the Museum's exhibits in the department under discussion. The compositions are not intended to be repetitions of the lecture, but the description of some object selected by each individual student. A committee will pass upon the compositions and will select the prize pictures. These large framed pictures are to become the property of the school in which the winner is a student.

A gift of six pictures was recently offered through the Art League for the decoration of "the most dreary school in the city." There were many applicants for this unenviable distinction, and after much discussion the Executive Committee decided that Public School No. 108, in Mott Street, answered this description. When the donor, Mrs. Ernesto Fabbri, visited the school she increased her gift to fourteen pictures. These large, colored, German lithographs have been

framed and will soon be hung in the school where they will brighten the dreary walls and bring pleasure to both pupils and teachers.

In many classrooms bookcases or closets occupy a large part of the wall space and it is not feasible to hang pictures above them. The tops of these bookcases, however, are well adapted to display large casts. Heretofore it has been impossible to secure plaster casts of the work of American sculptors, but, with the generous co-operation of Mr. Eli Harvey, the Art League is now having reproductions made of that artist's "Jaguar Rampant," which was exhibited at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis, in 1904.

One of these casts, an illustration of which is given on another page, would be an appropriate gift to any school from its graduating class. These casts are twenty-seven inches long and weigh about thirty pounds. They will be ready for delivery about May 15th, and can be secured at cost price, namely, ten dollars (\$10), by communicating with the Chairman of the Art League, Miss Florence N. Levy, at 215 West 57th Street, New York City.

#### MUNICIPAL ART LEAGUE OF CHICAGO

The Municipal Art League of Chicago, of which Mr. Ralph Clarkson is president, and Mr. James William Pattison secretary, is a wide-awake, progressive organization, not only exerting effort along the usual prescribed lines, but initiating new projects. It was this League that organized and carried out, last summer, a sculpture exhibition in the open air at Garfield Park in order to demonstrate to the public the desirability of beautifying public places, combining in an artistic manner sculpture and landscape. This exhibition was composed chiefly of the works of Chicago sculptors, but it is the purpose of the Municipal League to hold similar exhibitions later that will include works from all over the country. Within the past year this organization has done much toward abating the billboard and smoke nuisances, and toward promoting the reali-

zation of the Chicago Plan. Lectures have been given by its secretary on Municipal Art, a retrospective exhibition of the Art of Chicago has been held, a permanent gallery for Chicago artists established, as well as funds secured for a frieze for the decoration of the waiting room of the Juvenile Court. Under its exhibition committee, consisting of delegates from 55 clubs of Chicago, a Municipal Art Gallery has been established, paintings have been bought, prizes given, and tours through the Art Institute and to private collections and artists' studios conducted under the leadership of well-informed persons. Here is certainly stimulating example.

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM DENVER  
 Denver will this year have a "safe and sane" celebration of the Fourth of July. The

sale of fireworks and explosives will be limited and a committee of citizens is planning an elaborate parade, and an interesting celebration of patriotic character at the auditorium, which, with the parks, will be thrown open by the city to the public. The Civic Center for which Denver has battled so valiantly and persistently is now practically assured and the work of securing the ground will soon be under way. The plan for this Civic Center include a plaza—provided with seats for several thousand people, affording a central gathering place for all manner of outdoor patriotic meetings, band concerts and the like, and a sunken garden embellished with sculpture, fountains, flowers, and foliage. To further beautify the city several thousand maple and elm trees were given out by the municipality the early part of April to persons who would plant them about their premises. In addition to all this Denver has lately taken up the subject of police regulation of picture exhibitions, all moving picture theaters being not only placed under censorship, but compelled to install side lamps that will light the houses while the pictures are being shown. Lastly, a notable exhibition has been held at the newly opened Art Gallery in the Public Library under the auspices of the

Artists' Club. Over eight thousand persons attended this exhibition and a painting entitled "Upland Farms," by Mrs. Charlotte B. Coman, was purchased for a permanent public collection.

MUNICIPAL IMPROVEMENTS The report of the Metropolitan Improvements Commission of Boston, appointed by act of legislature in 1907, has just been printed and makes a volume of more than three hundred pages. The scope of the investigation entrusted to the Commission was very broad, embracing any public works which in its opinion would tend to the convenience of the people, the development of local business, the beautifying of the Metropolitan District, or the improvement of the same as a place of residence, but the work has been conducted along tangible lines and the recommendations made are concrete and practical. The first effort was to secure information from other cities and to seek suggestion and co-operation from the citizens of Boston. Not only were the services of experts employed but members of the Commission individually devoted much time to special investigation. Mr. Robert S. Peabody, for example, spent, in the summer of 1907, several months in Europe studying municipal and port improvement in some of the chief cities and in the summer of 1908 Mr. Desmond FitzGerald devoted considerable time to the investigation of port conditions in the foremost cities on the Atlantic coast. The paramount question considered was transportation, and the several chapters of the report deal respectively with railroads and terminals, docks, highways, waterways, water frontage, and a civic center. The report on railroads and terminals is by Mr. George R. Wadsworth, engineer, to whom the study of the present steam railroad systems and their terminals within the district was entrusted; the report on docks is by Mr. Desmond FitzGerald, and on the Metropolitan Plan, the highways of the district as a whole, by Mr. Arthur A. Shurtleff, landscape architect; Mr. Richard A. Hale contributes the chapter on the feasibility of constructing inland